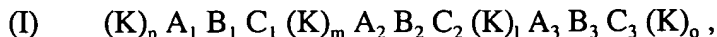


LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A delivery peptide comprising an amino acid sequence of formula I:



wherein

K is lysine (K),

B_1, B_2, B_3 [[is]] are each selected from the group consisting of arginine (R), glutamine (Q) [[or]] and histidine (H),

$A_1, A_2, A_3, C_1, C_2, C_3$ [[is]] are each arginine (R), histidine (H) or [[is]] are missing,

n, m, l, o is an integer from 0 to 5, and

the total number of amino acid residues is not more than 10.

2. **(Original)** The peptide of claim 1 comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

KKRKKQKKRK (SEQ ID NO: 1), RRKKKQKKK (SEQ ID NO: 2),

KKQKKRRK (SEQ ID NO: 3), KKQKKRRKK (SEQ ID NO: 4),

KKKQKRKK (SEQ ID NO: 5), RQKKQKKK (SEQ ID NO: 6),

RKQKKKRKKK (SEQ ID NO: 7), KRKQKQKKK (SEQ ID NO: 8),

KKRKQKKQK (SEQ ID NO: 9), KKKRKKQK (SEQ ID NO: 10),

RKKKKQKKK (SEQ ID NO: 11), KKRKKQKK (SEQ ID NO: 12),

QKKRRKKKQK (SEQ ID NO: 13), KKRKQKKRK (SEQ ID NO: 14),

KKRKQKKQKR (SEQ ID NO: 15), KRKQKQKKKK (SEQ ID NO: 16),

KKRKRKQKK (SEQ ID NO: 17), KQKRKKKQK (SEQ ID NO: 18),

KQKKRQKKK (SEQ ID NO: 19), KKKRKQKQKK (SEQ ID NO: 20),

RKKKQKKQKK (SEQ ID NO: 21), KKKRQKKQK (SEQ ID NO: 22),

KKRKKKKKRK (SEQ ID NO: 23), RRKKKKKK (SEQ ID NO: 24),

KKKKRRK (SEQ ID NO: 25), KKKKRRKK (SEQ ID NO: 26),
KKKKRKK (SEQ ID NO: 27), KKRKKKKK (SEQ ID NO: 28),
KKRKKHKRK (SEQ ID NO: 29), RRKKKHKKK (SEQ ID NO: 30),
KKHKRRK (SEQ ID NO: 31), KKHKKRRKK (SEQ ID NO: 32),
KKKHKKRKK (SEQ ID NO: 33), RHKKHKKKR (SEQ ID NO: 34),
RKHKKKRKKK (SEQ ID NO: 35), HHKRKKKRK (SEQ ID NO: 36),
KKRHHKRK (SEQ ID NO: 37), KKHRKKH (SEQ ID NO: 38) and KKKQKRK (SEQ ID NO: 39).

3. **(Original)** The peptide according to claim 1 consisting of amino acids selected from histidine (H), lysine (K), glutamine (Q), and arginine (R).
4. **(Original)** An expression cassette comprising a DNA transgen encoding a fusion protein comprising a leader sequence, a protein of interest and the delivery peptide of claim 1.
5. **(Original)** The expression cassette of claim 4 further comprising expression control sequences operatively linked to said DNA.
6. **(Original)** A transfer vector comprising the expression cassette of claim 4.
7. **(Original)** A peptide-cargo complex comprising the delivery peptide of claim 1 and at least one cargo molecule.
8. **(Currently Amended)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, wherein the delivery peptide is selectively linked to ~~[[the]]~~ an outer surface of at least one cargo molecule.
9. **(Original)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 8, wherein the linkage is formed by a cleavable linker.

10. **(Original)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 8, wherein the linkage includes a disulfide bond.
11. **(Original)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 8, wherein the linkage includes a streptavidin-biotin complex.
12. **(Original)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, wherein the delivery peptide is biotinylated and the cargo molecule is avidin labeled.
13. **(Original)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, wherein the cargo comprises at least one compound selected from the group consisting of polynucleotides, polypeptides, proteins, small organic molecules, metals, viruses, modified viruses, viral vectors, and plasmides.
14. **(Original)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, wherein the cargo is a virus selected from the group consisting of adenoviruses, adeno-associated viruses, herpes viruses, simplex virus, and retroviruses.
15. **(Original)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, wherein the cargo is selected from the group consisting of therapeutic proteins, suicide proteins, tumor suppressor proteins, transcription factors, kinase inhibitors, kinases, regulatory proteins, apoptotic proteins, anti-apoptotic proteins, viral antigens, cellular antigens, differentiation factors, immortalisation factors, toxins, enzymes, nucleic acids, antisense constructs, diagnostic imaging or contrast agents, dyes, antibacterial agents, antifungal agents, antiviral agents, antiproliferative agents, cytostatics, immunosuppressive agents, vitamins, analgesic agents, hormones, antiinflammatory agents, and antiaging agents.
16. **(Original)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, wherein the cargo is an antiviral agent selected from the group consisting of acyclovir, famciclovir, ganciclovir, foscarnet, idoxuridine, sorivudine, trifluridine (trifluoropyridine), valacyclovir, cidofovir, didanosine, stavudine, zalcitabine, zidovudine, ribavirin and rimantadine.

17. **(Original)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, wherein the cargo is an antibacterial agent selected from the group consisting of nafcillin, oxacillin, penicillin, amoxicillin, ampicillin, cephalosporine, cefotaxime, ceftriaxone, rifampin, minocycline, ciprofloxacin, norfloxacin, erythromycin, tetracycline, gentamicin, a macrolide, a quinolone, a β -lactone, a P-lactamase inhibitor, salicylamide, and vancomycin.
18. **(Original)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, wherein the cargo is an antifungal agent selected from the group consisting of amphotericin, itraconazole, ketoconazole, miconazole, nystatin, clotrimazole, fluconazole, ciclopirox, econazole, naftifine, terbinafine and griseofulvin.
19. **(Original)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, wherein the cargo is an antineoplastic agent selected from the group consisting of pentostatin, pentamidine, 6-mercaptopurine, 6-thioguanine, methotrexate, bleomycins, etoposide, teniposide, dactinomycin, daunorubicin, doxorubicin, mitoxantrone, hydroxyurea, 5-fluorouracil, cytarabine, fludarabine, mitomycin, cisplatin, procarbazine, dacarbazine, paclitaxel, colchicine, and vinca alkaloids.
20. **(Original)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, wherein the cargo is an immunosuppressive agent selected from the group consisting of methotrexate, azathioprine, fluorouracil, hydroxyurea, 6-thioguanine, cyclophosphamide, mechloroethamine hydrochloride, carmustine, cyclosporine, taxol, tacrolimus, vinblastine, dapsone, nedocromil, cromolyn (cromoglycic acid), and sulfasalazine.
21. **(Original)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, wherein the cargo is an analgesic agent selected from the group consisting of lidocaine, bupivacaine, novocaine, procaine, tetracaine, benzocaine, cocaine, mepivacaine, etidocaine, proparacaine, ropivacaine, and prilocaine.

22. **(Currently Amended)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, wherein the cargo is a hormone selected from the group consisting of tissue hormones, ~~in particular prostaglandine, serotonin, histamine, bradykinin, kallikrein, and~~ gastrointestinal hormones, releasing hormones, pituitary hormones, insulin, vasopressin (ADH), glucagon, enkephalin, calcitonin, and corticosteroides.

23. **(Original)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, wherein the cargo is a histamine receptor agonist or antagonist selected from 2-methylhistamine, 2-pyridylethylamine, 2-thiazolyl-ethylamine, (R)-a-methylhistamine, impromidine, dimaprit, 4(5)methyl-histamine, diphenhydramine, pyrilamine, promethazine, chlorpheniramine, chlorcyclizine, and terfenadine.

24. **(Original)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, wherein the cargo is an cytokine or growth factor selected from the group consisting of IL-1Ra, STNF-R (p55), STNF-R (p75), SIL-1R type I, SIL-1R type II, BMP-2, BMP-6, BMP-7, LMP-1, LMP-3, IGF-1, TGF- β 1, TGF- β 2, TGF- β 3, IL-4, IL-10, CTLA4, CD30, TIMP-1, IFN- β , Sox-9, and PDGF.

25. **(Currently Amended)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, wherein the cargo is an antiaging agent selected from the group consisting of retinoic acid, hyaluronic acid, collagen, and free radical catchers, ~~in particular SOD~~.

26. **(Original)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, wherein the cargo is a therapeutic agent for a condition selected from the group consisting of Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, gastrointestinal ulcers, peptic ulcer disease, and abnormal proliferative diseases.

27. **(Original)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, wherein the cargo is a therapeutic for ulcers and is selected from the group consisting of an H2-histamine inhibitor, an inhibitor of the proton-potassium ATPase, and an antibiotic directed at *Helicobacter pylori*.

28. **(Original)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, wherein the cargo is a therapeutic agent for treating a bronchial condition selected from cystic fibrosis, asthma, allergic rhinitis, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

29. **(Currently Amended)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, wherein the cargo is a therapeutic agent for treating a condition selected from the group consisting of ischemia, Parkinson's disease, schizophrenia, cancer, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), infections of the central nervous system, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, neurodegenerative disease, trauma, depression, Alzheimer's disease, migraine, pain, and a seizure disorder.

30. **(Original)** The peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, wherein the cargo is a therapeutic agent for a condition selected from the group consisting of inflammatory and degenerative joint and spine diseases, arthritis, especially osteoarthritis, low back pain, bone repair, fracture healing, therapy of muscle and ligament injury.

31. **(Currently Amended)** A method ~~Use of the peptide according to claim 1~~ for cellular internalisation of a cargo molecule ~~linked thereto~~ which comprises linking a cargo molecule to a peptide according to claim 1 to form a cargo molecule-peptide complex.

32. **(Currently Amended)** A method for producing ~~Use of the peptide according to claim 1 for the production of~~ a kit for cellular internalisation of a cargo molecule ~~linked thereto~~ in an animal or a human body which method comprises linking a cargo molecule to a peptide according to claim 1 to form a cargo molecule-peptide complex and producing a kit comprising said cargo molecule-peptide complex.

33. **(Currently Amended)** A method ~~Use of the peptide according to claim 1~~ for nuclear translocation of a cargo molecule in a target cell which comprises linking a cargo molecule to a peptide according to claim 1.

34. **(Currently Amended)** A method for producing ~~Use of the peptide according to claim 1 for the production of~~ a kit for nuclear translocation of a cargo molecule in a target cell in an animal or a human body which comprises linking a cargo molecule to a peptide according to claim 1 to form a cargo molecule-peptide complex and producing a kit comprising said cargo molecule-peptide complex.

35. **(Currently Amended)** A method ~~Use of the peptide according to claim 1~~ for translocation of a cargo molecule in the mitochondria of a target cell which comprises linking said cargo molecule to a peptide according to claim 1.

36. **(Currently Amended)** ~~Use of the peptide according to claim 1 for the production of~~ A method for producing a kit for translocation of a cargo molecule in the mitochondria of a target cell in an animal or a human body which comprises linking said cargo molecule to a peptide according to claim 1 to form a cargo molecule-peptide complex and producing a kit comprising said cargo molecule-peptide complex.

37. **(Currently Amended)** A method ~~Use of the peptide according to claim 1~~ for the treatment of a condition selected from the group consisting of Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, gastrointestinal ulcers, peptic ulcer disease, abnormal proliferative diseases, an infection with *Helicobacter pylori*, cystic fibrosis, asthma, allergic rhinitis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, ischemia, Parkinson's disease, schizophrenia, cancer, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), infections of the central nervous system, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, neurodegenerative disease, trauma, depression, Alzheimer's disease, migraine, pain, and a seizure disorder which method comprises administering to an individual in need thereof having at least one said condition, an effective amount of cargo molecule for treating said condition, which is linked to a peptide according to claim 1.

38. **(Canceled)**

39. **(Currently Amended)** A method for treating a condition selected from the group consisting ~~Use of the peptide according to claim 1 for the treatment~~ of glucocerebrosidase deficiency (Gaucher's disease), mucopolysaccharidosis I, sanfilippo B syndrome, pancreatic insufficiency, severe combined immunodeficiency syndrome, and neuromuscular dysfunction associated with triose phosphate isomerase deficiency which method comprises administering to an individual in need thereof having at least one said condition, an effective amount of a cargo molecule for treating said condition, which is linked to a peptide according to claim 1.

40. (Canceled)

41. (Currently Amended) A method for treating a condition selected from the group consisting of Use of the peptide according to claim 1 for the treatment of inflammatory and degenerative joint and spine diseases, arthritis, especially osteoarthritis, low back pain, bone repair, fracture healing, therapy of muscle and ligament injury which method comprises administering to an individual in need thereof having at least one said condition, an effective amount of cargo molecule for treating said condition, which is linked to a peptide according to claim 1.

42. (Canceled)

43. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
a cargo-peptide complex according to claim 7, comprising an effective amount of a biologically active or therapeutic agent, and
a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

44. (Original) A method for the delivery of a cargo to the surface of, into or across a biological barrier, comprising:

- a) providing a cargo and at least one delivery peptide according to claim 1,
- b) forming a peptide-cargo complex,
- c) contacting the barrier with the peptide-cargo complex, and
- d) delivering the cargo to the surface of, into or across the barrier.

45. (Original) The method of claim 44, wherein the barrier is an intact epithelial or endothelial tissue layer or layers.

46. (Original) The method of claim 44, wherein the barrier is skin.

47. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 46, wherein the cargo is delivered into and/or across ~~one or more of the layers~~ at least one layer selected from the group consisting of stratum corneum, stratum granulosum, stratum lucidum, and stratum germinativum.
48. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 46, wherein the contacting of the skin with the peptide-cargo complex is accomplished by administering a composition comprising the peptide-cargo complex topically to the skin, ~~and in particular the cargo is taken up by cells that comprise the follicular or interfollicular epidermis.~~
49. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 48, ~~with~~ wherein the composition ~~being~~ is in a form selected from the group consisting of a cream, ointment, salve, lotion, ~~[[or]]~~ and a transdermal patch.
50. **(Original)** The method of claim 44, wherein the barrier is the gastrointestinal tract.
51. **(Original)** The method of claim 44, wherein the barrier is the pulmonary epithelium.
52. **(Original)** The method of claim 44, wherein the barrier is the endothelial blood brain barrier.
53. **(Original)** A method for inducing synovial cell death comprising administering the peptide-cargo complex of claim 7 to said synovial cell.
54. **(Canceled)**
55. **(Currently Amended)** A method for inducing apoptosis in a tumor cell comprising administering the peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, ~~in particular comprising an apoptotic protein;~~ to said tumor cell.

56. (Canceled)

57. (Original) A method for reducing white blood cells in arthritic joints comprising administering the peptide-cargo complex of claim 7 to said white blood cells.

58. (Canceled)

59. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing the effects of skin aging comprising administering to one in need thereof the peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, ~~in particular comprising an antiaging agent,~~ to the skin.

60. (Canceled)

61. (Canceled)

62. (Original) A method for eliciting an immune response in an animal or a human body comprising administering to a target cell of said body an immunogen comprising the peptide-cargo complex of claim 7.

63. (Currently Amended) A method for producing an ~~Use of the peptide-cargo complex of claim 7, for the production of a~~ immunogen for eliciting an immune response in an animal or a human body which method comprises forming a peptide-cargo complex according to claim 7.